

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 ARA-06 EA-06 IO-10

NEA-09 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /126 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 571

INFO US MISSION OECD PARIS 387

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US MISSION OECD PARIS PASS TO USDEL PRODUCER/CONSUMER
PREPCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IT, US

SUBJECT: US-ITALY BILATERAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP

REF: A) ROME 9444; (B) ROME 5046

1. APRIL 9 MEETING WITH FRANCISCI, MFA ECONOMIC COORDINATOR, CONFIRMED THAT SUBJECTS FOR INITIAL MEETING US-ITALY BILATERAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP (BLEWG) WILL BE (A) NATURAL URANIUM SUPPLIES, (B) ENRICHED URANIUM AND ALL OTHER TECHNICAL ELEMENTS OF THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE, (C) TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND (D) FINANCING OF ITALY'S NUCLEAR REACTOR PROGRAM. COMPONENTS OF GOI DELEGATION NOT ENTIRELY FIRM, BUT WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE THOSE MENTIONED REF (A). IN ADDITION, CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE MADE BY FINMECCANICA, GOI HOLDING COMPANY IN HEAVY INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY SECTOR (CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS) AND BANK OF ITALY.

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2. TIMING WAS DISCUSSED, AND GOI CONSCIOUS OF USG DESIRE TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS AS FOLLOW-ON TO IEA GB MEETINGS.

3. DURING DISCUSSION, FRANCISCI NOTED THAT MFA WOULD CONTINUE COORDINATING ROLE ASSUMED DURING ENDER'S VISIT, NOTWITHSTANDING THAT BLEWG IS MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (MOI) BRAINCHILD, AND THAT MOI CONTINUES TO PLAY THE MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ROLE.

4. FRANCISCI NOTED GENERAL GOI CONSENSUS, WHICH MFA IS RESISTING, THAT THE GB AGREEMENT ON MINIMUM PROTECTED PRICE BE TREATED AS AN ABSTRACT AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WHICH LEAVES WIDE RANGE FOR DEFINITION. AS A RESULT, INTRA-GOI DISCUSSIONS HAVE CENTERED ON LEVELS AS LOW AS \$4 PER BARREL OF OIL EQUIVALENT. FINAL DETERMINANT WILL BE, ACCORDING TO FRANCISCI, COST NECESSARY TO PROTECT EVENTUAL INVESTMENT IN NUCLEAR GENERATING FACILITIES. HE EXPECTS THAT THE FINAL RANGE WILL BE \$6 TO \$8, BUT NOTED THIS IS A LARGE SPREAD. BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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